

(Within Worthington Valley NR district)

BA-59

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON:				
Bloomfield				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
Tufton Avenue about 0.3 miles north of Worthington Avenue				
CITY OR TOWN:				
Glyndon				
STATE:		COUNTY:		
Maryland		Baltimore		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
				Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments				
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious				
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME:				
Henry A. Parr IV				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
Bloomfield				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		
Glyndon		Maryland 21071		
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:				
Baltimore County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
Washington Avenue				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		
Towson		Maryland 21204		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 5167/434				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
Baltimore County Landmarks				
DATE OF SURVEY: 1971 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
Baltimore County Historical Society				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:		STATE:		
Cockeysville		Maryland 21030		

7. DESCRIPTION			
CONDITION	(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair
	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
(Check One)		(Check One)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered		<input type="checkbox"/> Uncolored	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE			
<p>Bloomfield is a five bay, two and one-half storey, gabled roof brick house on a stone foundation, with a later, two storey "L" shaped service wing extending from the south end near the southwest corner, thence east to the approximate alignment of the east or principle front wall of the house; a one storey, shed-roofed porch is within the shallow courtyard formed by the house and its service wing, and a similar porch extends along the south side of the wing.</p> <p>The principle (or east) front of the main house is laid in Flemish bond, of rather large, handmade bricks with closers and grapevine joint; other walls of the main house are in common bond with every fifth course being headers. The brick watertable is unmoulded, and marking the second floor line is a belt course, consisting of two courses projecting slightly beyond them.</p> <p>The five bays are of unequal width. The principle entrance in the center bay appears south of center. It has an eight paneled door, and an elliptically arched leaded transom with leaded sidelights extending clear to the floor. Brickwork above suggests the entrance, in its present form, is an alteration. A Tuscan porch with pedimented roof, one bay in width, shelters this entrance.</p> <p>Rubbed brick jack arches, one and one-half bricks high, support the masonry above each window of the east front. Sash are 6/6. Window frames consist of an architrave with an ogee backband and a bold bullnose near the inner edge to receive louvred blinds hung on cast iron parliament hinges, with cast iron shell-pattern dogs. Window sills are brownstone.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(continued)</p>			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☒ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

original part pre-1798

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This is one of the earliest extant houses in the Werthington Valley Historic District, although probably not as early as Welcome Here. It was undoubtedly designed as a mansion for the woodwork in the principal room is a very elaborate working of several designs shown in 18th century English pattern books. The 1798 Federal Tax Assessment lists a two-storey brick house of the same dimensions as owned by Samuel Werthington.

The property lies on the tract known as Welshes Cradle, patented to William Werthington in 1740. It was settled by Samuel Werthington, the father of a large family which peopled the valley and whose descendants are still to be found there. This remarkable man was presumably the builder of Bleemfield. He was a member of the Committee of Observation during the American Revolution and in 1781 was a delegate to the Maryland General Assembly. He died in 1815 at the age of 82 and was buried in the family cemetery near Bleemfield; however, his remains and those of other Werthington family members were later removed to the churchyard of St. John's Episcopal Church.

Bleemfield was left to Samuel's son, Charles. He, in turn, gave it to his son, Richard Johns Werthington, a bachelor who lived in the house until his death in 1871. Mr. Charles Councilman purchased the house from Werthington's heirs and created a model experimental farm there, specializing

(continued)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Baltimore City and Baltimore County
(Philadelphia, 1881)

Leese, Martha Hewes., "Bloomfield", in Federation P.T.A. News, (Feb. 1938)

Federal Direct Tax Assessment, 1798

Baltimore County Tax Assessments, 1823, 1876, 1911

Ferman, Henry C. Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Md. (Baltimore, 1934) Waverly Press
photo p. 110

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "	°	' "	° ' "
NE	° ' "	° ' "	°	' "	° ' "
SE	° ' "	° ' "	°	' "	° ' "
SW	° ' "	° ' "	°	' "	° ' "

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **7 acres ±**

Acreage Justification:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Catherine F. Black and James T. Wellen, Jr. AIA

ORGANIZATION

Werthington Valley Historical District Project

DATE

Jan. 1, 1976

STREET AND NUMBER:

1114 Bellemore Rd.

CITY OR TOWN:

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21210

12.

State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐

State ☐

Local ☐

Signature

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Continuation Sheet

Question 7

The broad wood cornice consists of a large cyma reversa for a bed moulding, a wide soffit, a fascia and a cyma recta crown. Rake overhangs, with returns at the eaveline, are of a similar size.

The flush chimney at each end has a raised panel in brick on each face.

Three dormers on the front slope of the roof light the attic storey.

The north end has but two small windows in the attic storey, and one has been altered into a door leading to a steel fire escape mounted on the north end. The south end had a door in the first storey, now bricked in, leading to the porch in front of the wing, near the southeast corner, and an interior door leads from the main house to the wing, near the former's southwest corner.

The rear or west facade has segmental arches, one and one-half bricks high, over each opening. The single door is in the center bay and the window above it, to one side, is dropped down indicating a landing inside. The two southerly bays of the first storey were removed and a frame one storey extension, with two similar windows, was added to enlarge the southwest room. Two very wide dormers on the rear slope of the roof light the attic storey.

The "L" shaped wing is of common bond, with smaller bricks, and with every seventh course headers. The wing consists of a pavillion with an east-west ridge-line, joined to the main house by a hyphen of the same height, with a north-south ridgeline. The west walls of the hyphen and wing are flush and continuous, and are a few inches east of the house's west facade. The hyphen portion is three bays in length, as is the pavillion portion. Windows are 6/6.

The basic floorplan of the main house is with a center hall with principle staircase, two rooms on the left (south) and one large room on the right (north). The hyphen contains small service rooms and a back stair; the pavillion contains

Continuation Sheet - 2

the kitchen with a chimney but no fireplace, and a small service room.

The principle staircase has late nineteenth century components, including a black walnut turned newel and moulded handrail, turned balusters and scrolled step ends. Doors to the southeast and north rooms have shouldered architraves which appear to be of the eighteenth century, but the four-paneled doors appear to be of the late nineteenth. A simple molded plaster circle ornaments the ceiling.

The north room -- a large drawing room -- has many details, curious interpretations of eighteenth century builders' hand books; it has a fully paneled north wall with fireplace and cupboards, a paneled wainscot, ornamental door surround, a cornice and a plaster ceiling ornament.

Centered on the north wall is the fireplace, with a segmentally-arched firebox, a two-plane crossetted architrave surround with ovolo backband, and an overmantel consisting of a backband outlining a rectangle with crossettes at all four corners, within which is a similar shape outlined by a small wall-of-Troy applied to the flush boarded surface. Between the firebox surround and the overmantel is a long, narrow panel, outlined by a small ogee moulding surrounding a double-ogee projection, returned on itself short of the panel's ends. A wide shelf, with a characteristically Greek echinus edge, has been added immediately above the firebox surround.

Flanking the chimney and recessed within the paneling is an open cupboard with a plastered semi-circular inner wall and half-dome, and narrow, wooden scrolled shelves. The lower portion of each cupboard is enclosed with modern double doors. Ghosts of H or HL hinges are seen on the jambs indicating that the cupboards were originally closed with full-length doors, and a published photograph (1) shows these cupboards with neither shelves nor doors of any height. Fluted pilasters of

(1) H.C. Forman, Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland. p. 1934
photo p. 110

Continuation Sheet - 3

the Tuscan order extend from the floor, flanking each cupboard, and support its two plane archivolt with ovelo backband. Similar, but short, pilasters are superimposed upon the lower pilasters (the archivolt simply cuts into the base of the upper pilasters) and support nothing; they simply extend to the unbroken room cornice. However, the cornice does break out over the scrolled keystone of each cupboard. A chair rail extends between the cupboard and fireplace elements, and shallow, flat panels, with loose mouldings, embellish the remainder of the wall surface, enclosing the space between the corners of the house and the cupboards, and between the latter and the chimney breast.

The cornice, which extends around the entire room, includes a wall-of-Trey dentils, scrolled modillions and a crown moulding.

The wainscoting consists of fully raised panels between a moulded baseboard and cap chair rail. A narrow, three-fluted Tuscan pilaster in the wainscot supports each window architrave, which is of two planes separated by ogee moulding, with cassettes at the upper corners and an ovelo backband.

The door to the hall has a similar architrave, supported on plinths; flanking the doorway are fluted Tuscan pilasters supporting a pediment (more nearly related to the architrave in width, and not to the pilasters) which was originally open, or broken, but which has been infilled or completed. The pediment mouldings are similar to the room cornice, but modillions were not added where the peak was filled or completed. All horizontal mouldings, including the architrave and frieze, are omitted and the rake mouldings are supported directly by the pilasters. The jambs of the door opening are embellished with fully raised panels, undoubtedly reflecting the original door, now missing.

Continuation Sheet - 4

About an inch or two from the perimeter cornice, and from the centered plaster medallion, the plane of the ceiling drops about the same distance. The center medallion is a circle of several bold mouldings.

The southeast room has architraves similar to those in the north room, and a similar paneled jamb in the doorway from the center hall, but the base is a simple beaded board, and the chair rail has been removed. The fireplace, approximately centered on the south wall in a projecting chimney breast, has a mantel with much Adamesque ornamentation.

The southwest room, enlarged toward the west as described above, has almost no embellishment, except a beaded baseboard, and an Adamesque mantel similar to the one in the southeast room, on a projecting chimney breast adjacent to the partition which separates the two south rooms. The door, and its trim, between the two south rooms is probably of the twentieth century, and no door exists from the southwest room to the center hall.

The second floor plan is similar to the first, but the north section of the house is divided between two rooms, with corner fireplaces. Each has a belection surround, a flat frieze with cavette-shaped end, and a narrow shelf supported by a cavette moulding. The southeast mantel is of the late nineteenth century, consisting of plain pilasters supporting a plain frieze, with a shelf; there is no mantel in the southwest room.

Two finished rooms and a bath occupy the third floor.

In the cellar, diagonal arches under the south chimney, interrupted by solid stone foundations under the existing chimney breasts above, suggest that the two south fireplaces were originally in the corners of the respective rooms.

Continuation Sheet - 5

Simple, but attractive landscape design, including English boxwood and mature trees on a relatively flat lawn, provide a handsome setting for the house.

To the west is an early one storey stone spring house.

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Question 8

in soil technology, he recognized the value of limestone deposits beneath the soil in raising fine horses and cattle. His work has certainly influenced the establishment of the Valley as a center of horse-breeding.

Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt owned Bloomfield briefly from 1937 to 1939. It is presently owned by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Parr IV who purchased the house and seven acres from Mr. Vanderbilt.

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BA-59

Bloomfield, Lupton Ave., Whiteington Valley, Maryland